

Those that reopened had to innovate their business models to comply with local guidelines and public health mandates. As we turn the corner on the COVID-19 pandemic, I am proud to relaunch Support Local Gems, a statewide initiative, on May 21 to encourage Idahoans to support local small businesses in their communities. This month, as a senior member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I will honor six small businesses located throughout the State of Idaho. I am pleased to honor Great Harvest in Idaho Falls as one of the Idaho Small Businesses of the Month for May 2021.

The Great Harvest Bread Company in Idaho Falls is owned and operated by Tiffani and John Van Orman. With two locations in Eastern Idaho, the bakeries are known for their vast selection of artisan breads, sweets, and treats. They pride themselves on using the freshest ingredients and making their products completely from scratch.

Since its establishment over 20 years ago, the business has been actively involved in the Idaho Falls community, donating money and baked goods to school fundraisers, church gatherings, and local charitable causes. While the pandemic has impacted their business, it has not deterred their charitable efforts. During the March 2020 shutdown, Great Harvest kept all of their employees on the payroll and increased their production. The Van Ormans donated the extra food items to their local food pantry, YMCA, local school districts, hospitals, and emergency responders. They also placed Generosity Tables stocked with free baked goods outside of their bakeries and encouraged customers to take them to people in need. Their spirit of generosity is what defines Idaho's small businesses, and Great Harvest Bread Company has stepped up for its community during these hard times.

Congratulations to Great Harvest in Idaho Falls on being selected as an Idaho Gem for the month of May. You serve as an example in your community and are an outstanding example of what it means to be one of Idaho's Local Gems.●

RECOGNIZING HAPPY DAY CORPORATION

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic have not been easy for small business owners and their employees to overcome. Throughout the pandemic, many were forced to temporarily close their doors. Those that reopened had to innovate their business models to comply with local guidelines and public health mandates. As we turn the corner on the COVID-19 pandemic, I am proud to relaunch Support Local Gems, a statewide initiative, on May 21 to encourage Idahoans to support local small businesses in their communities. This month, as a senior member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on

Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I will honor six small businesses located throughout the State of Idaho. I am pleased to honor Happy Day Corporation in Lewiston as one of the Idaho Small Businesses of the Month for May 2021.

Happy Day is a four-generation family business founded by Bruce and Joy Finch in 1969. After opening their first franchise restaurant in the Lewiston area, the couple went into business with Bruce's father, Charles, and began to expand their venture. With 10 years of business under their belts, Bruce and Joy reorganized their budding company, officially naming it "Happy Day" to commemorate Joy's delight that their company was flourishing. Today, the business comprises 13 franchise and independent restaurants and a catering and events division. This has enabled the company to provide jobs for more than 450 employees in the Inland Northwest.

Above all else, Happy Day is known for its commitment to service. Each year, thousands of wildland firefighters battle wildfires throughout the West. In an effort to keep them fed, Happy Day provides hundreds of meals to these firefighters at their fire camps. In addition, the company has long supported veterans. Happy Day restaurants have served more than 100,000 meals to local veterans through its monthly Tuesday Vets Meal initiative where veterans can eat for free. Their enduring dedication to community service has garnered them local and national awards, including being inducted into the Idaho Hall of Fame in 2016. Happy Day's efforts to serve their community make them an exceptional example of service-oriented small business leadership.

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RECOGNIZING MOUNTAIN MADNESS SOAP

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Idaho Small Businesses of the Month for May 2021.

Mountain Madness Soap is a specialty handmade soap and bath products company founded by Jennifer and Andy Morsell. The business began with Jennifer's hobby of making organic soaps in her kitchen and giving them as gifts to friends and family. The enthusiastic reception she received inspired Jennifer and her husband to start their own business selling the soaps at local farmers markets and craft fairs. The pair eventually moved to Coeur d'Alene, where they opened their first shop. The business quickly found success as demand soared for their locally sourced soap and bath products. Finding themselves unable to keep pace with demand, the business expanded into a larger facility in 2016, enabling them to increase the size of their retail space and expand their production and fulfillment facilities.

To overcome the challenges and restrictions of the pandemic, Mountain Madness adapted its operations to continue serving the community safely. Jennifer and Andy kept the store open by implementing face mask requirements for employees, rigorous sanitation of facilities, and by adding curbside pickup and at-home deliveries. Jennifer and Andy made the safety of their customers and employees the top priority. They adapted quickly to new challenges and developed ways to bring their products to their customers. And through that quick and innovative response, they managed to grow their business despite the hardship. Mountain Madness continues to support its fellow Idaho small businesses by purchasing locally sourced product materials from other small businesses.

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RECOGNIZING THE SANDPIPER

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